

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE:

In the Claims (bracketed parts deleted and underline parts added):

1. (Amended) An interactive pet device, said device comprising:
 - a first plate[, said first plate] having a top side, a bottom side and a peripheral wall extending therebetween, said peripheral wall of said first plate having an annular channel therein;
 - a plurality of balls, each of said balls being rotatably inserted in said annular channel such that said balls may roll about said first plate in said channel;
 - a second plate[, said second plate] having a top surface, a bottom surface and a peripheral wall extending therebetween;
 - a plurality of posts for positioning said first and second plates in a spaced relationship, each of said posts having a first end and a second end, each of said first ends of said plurality of posts being securely coupled to said top surface of said second plate, each of said second ends being securely coupled to said bottom side of said first plate;
 - a plurality of elongate flexible members, each of said elongate flexible members having a first and second end, each of said first ends of said elongate flexible members being securely coupled to said bottom side of said first plate; and
 - a plurality of toys, each of said toys being securing coupled to one of the second ends of said elongate flexible members.

Please cancel claim 2.

3. The interactive pet device as in claim 1, further comprising:

a covering member[, said covering member comprising a cushion]; and

a securing means for removably securing said first covering member to said top side of said first plate.

4. (Amended) The interactive pet device as in claim 1, wherein [each of said posts further comprises:]

each of said posts [being] is orientated generally perpendicular to said top surface and said bottom side, each of said posts being telescoping posts such that each post comprises a first portion extendable into a second portion, each of said first portions having a locking means thereon for selectively locking said posts in an extended position.

5. (Amended) The interactive pet device as in claim 4, further comprising[:]

a plurality of panels, each of said panels being removably securable to one of said posts, each of said panels comprising a generally flexible material.

6. (Amended) The interactive pet device as in claim 1, further comprising[:]

a plurality of panels, each of said panels being removably securable to one of said posts, each of said panels comprising a generally flexible material.

Please cancel claim 7.

8. (Amended) The interactive pet device as in claim 3,
further comprising:
a second covering member; and
a coupling means for coupling said second covering member to
said top surface of said second plate.

9. (Amended) The interactive pet device as in claim 1,
[further comprising:]
wherein each of said first ends of said elongate flexible
members [being] is securely coupled to a spool rotatably
mounted in said bottom side of said first plate, each of a
plurality of biasing means bias a rotation of one of said
spools in a first direction, said biasing means comprising
a spring, each of said elongate flexible members
comprising a string.

Please cancel claim 10.

11. (Amended) The interactive pet device as in claim 5,
[further comprising:]
wherein each of said first ends of said elongate flexible
members [being] is securely coupled to a spool rotatably
mounted in said bottom side of said first plate, each of a
plurality of biasing means bias a rotation of one of said
spools in a first direction, said biasing means comprising
a spring, each of said elongate flexible members
comprising a string.

Please cancel claim 12.

Please add the following claims:

13. (Added) An interactive pet device, said device comprising:

- a first plate having a top side, a bottom side and a peripheral wall extending therebetween;
- a second plate having a top surface, a bottom surface and a peripheral wall extending therebetween;
- a plurality of posts for positioning said first and second plates in a spaced relationship, each of said posts having a first end and a second end, each of said first ends of said plurality of posts being securely coupled to said top surface of said second plate, each of said second ends being securely coupled to said bottom side of said first plate;
- a plurality of panels, each of said panels being removably securable to one of said posts, each of said panels comprising a generally flexible material;
- a plurality of elongate flexible members, each of said elongate flexible members having a first and second end, each of said first ends of said elongate flexible members being securely coupled to said bottom side of said first plate;
- and
- a plurality of toys, each of said toys being securing coupled to one of the second ends of said elongate flexible members.

14. (Added) The interactive pet device as in claim 13, wherein said peripheral wall of said first plate has an annular

channel therein, further including a plurality of balls, each of said balls being rotatably inserted in said annular channel such that said balls may roll about said first plate in said channel.

15. (Added) The interactive pet device as in claim 13, further comprising a covering member, a securing means removably secures said first covering member to said top side of said first plate.

16. (Added) The interactive pet device as in claim 13, wherein each of said posts is orientated generally perpendicular to said top surface and said bottom side, each of said posts being telescoping posts such that each post comprises a first portion extendable into a second portion, each of said first portions having a locking means thereon for selectively locking said posts in an extended position.

17. (Added) The interactive pet device as in claim 15, further comprising a second covering member and a coupling means for coupling said covering member to said top surface of said second plate.

18. (Added) The interactive pet device as in claim 13, wherein each of said first ends of said elongate flexible members is securely coupled to a spool rotatably mounted in said bottom side of said first plate, each of a plurality of biasing means bias a rotation of one of said spools in a first direction, said biasing means comprising a spring, each of said elongate flexible members comprising a string.

19. (Added) The interactive pet device as in claim 14, wherein each of said first ends of said elongate flexible members is securely coupled to a spool rotatably mounted in said bottom side of said first plate, each of a plurality of biasing means bias a rotation of one of said spools in a first direction, said biasing means comprising a spring, each of said elongate flexible members comprising a string.

20. An interactive pet device, said device comprising:
a first plate, said first plate having a top side, a bottom side
and a peripheral wall extending therebetween;
a second plate, said second plate having a top surface, a
bottom surface and a peripheral wall extending
therebetween;
a plurality of posts for positioning said first and second plates
in a spaced relationship, each of said posts having a first
end and a second end, each of said first ends of said
plurality of posts being securely coupled to said top
surface of said second plate, each of said second ends
being securely coupled to said bottom side of said first
plate, each of said posts being orientated generally
perpendicular to said top surface and said bottom side,
each of said posts being telescoping posts such that each
post comprises a first portion extendable into a second
portion, each of said first portions having a locking
means thereon for selectively locking said posts in an
extended position;
a plurality of elongate flexible members, each of said elongate
flexible members having a first and second end, each of
said first ends of said elongate flexible members being

securely coupled to said bottom side of said first plate;
and
a plurality of toys, each of said toys being securing coupled to
one of the second ends of said elongate flexible
members.

21. (Added) The interactive pet device as in claim 20,
further including:

said peripheral wall having an annular channel therein, said
top and bottom sides having a generally circular shape;
a plurality of balls, each of said balls being rotatably inserted
in said annular channel such that said balls may roll
about said first plate in said channel, each of said balls
comprising a substantially rigid material;
a first covering member comprising a cushion;
a securing means for removably securing said first covering
member to said top side of said first plate, said securing
means comprising a hook and loop securing means;
a diameter length of said top surface being substantially
identical to a diameter length of said bottom side of said
first plate;
said plurality of posts being four posts;
a plurality of panels, each of said panels being removably
securable to one of said posts, each of said panels
having a hook and loop fastening means thereon for
removably securing said panels to said posts, each of
said panels comprising a generally flexible material
having an inner and an outer surface, said outer surface
comprising a plurality of looped fibers;
a second covering member comprising a cushion;

a coupling means for coupling said second covering member to said top surface of said second plate, said coupling means comprising a hook and loop fastening means; and a carrying means for carrying said device, said carrying means comprising a top portion and a base portion, said top portion having a lumen therein adapted for receiving said device, said top portion having a free edge, a zipper removably coupling a free edge of said top portion to a perimeter edge of said base portion.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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